

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

- 1 1. (currently amended) A carrier of articles for wearing around a  
2 forearm, the carrier comprising:  
3 a carrier body having front and back edges, a top side, a center  
4 portion, and an end portion on each side of the center portion, the carrier  
5 body having a narrower width at the front edge than at the back edge in  
6 order to form a tapered sleeve that conforms to a shape of the forearm  
7 when the carrier is worn ~~the center portion having front and back edges~~  
8 ~~and an external surface with a size that is greater in length from the~~  
9 ~~front edge to the back edge than various kinds of articles used in~~  
10 ~~cosmetics, including scissors, eyeliner pencils, and makeup brushes;~~  
11 means for securing the carrier to the forearm, the securing means  
12 including means for fastening the end portions to each other when the  
13 end portions are wrapped around opposite sides of the forearm ~~to secure~~  
14 ~~the carrier to the forearm~~; and  
15 a strap extending across at least a portion of the center portion  
16 and attached to the top side at a plurality of locations to form an open-  
17 ended compartment that extends along the ~~external surface~~ center  
18 portion in a longitudinal direction of the forearm, the compartment  
19 snugly receiving an article used in cosmetics and urging the article  
20 against the center portion ~~external surface~~ to hold the article in place, an  
21 open end of the compartment being located at a distance from the front  
22 edge such that the article can project out of the compartment while  
23 remaining ~~encompassed by the external surface of~~ on the center portion.

- 1    2.    (Currently amended)    The carrier of claim 1, further comprising a  
2           cover portion attached to a the front edge of ~~the center portion~~ for folding  
3           over the article in the compartment.
- 1    3.    (canceled)
- 1    4.    (Currently amended) The carrier of claim 1, wherein the strap extends  
2           across the carrier body approximately parallel to a the front edge of ~~the~~  
3           ~~center portion~~.
- 1    5.    (canceled)
- 1    6.    (original)    The carrier of claim 1, wherein the strap is made of elastic  
2           material.
- 1    7.    (original)    The carrier of claim 1, wherein strap extends fully across the  
2           center portion.
- 1    8.    (original)    The carrier of claim 1, wherein the compartment has an  
2           opening at each end through which the article extends.
- 1    9.    (original)    The carrier of claim 1, wherein the compartment is a pocket  
2           having a closed end and an open end through which the article is  
3           inserted.
- 1    10.   (original)    The carrier of claim 1, wherein the compartment is sized to  
2           closely receive a brush handle.
- 1    11.   (original)    The carrier of claim 1, further comprising a pocket aligned  
2           with the compartment for receiving a tip of the article inserted into the  
3           compartment.

1 12. (original) The carrier of claim 1, wherein the means for fastening  
2 includes a hook-and-loop material.

1 13. (original) The carrier of claim 1, further comprising a layer of neoprene  
2 material sewn between layers of duck cloth.

1 14. (canceled)

1 15. (original) The carrier of claim 1, further comprising a second strap  
2 extending across at least a portion of the top side of the carrier body and  
3 attached to the top side at a plurality of locations such that a second  
4 compartment is defined for receiving and holding an article between the  
5 second strap and the center portion.

1 16. (currently amended) A carrier of articles for wearing around a  
2 forearm, the carrier comprising:

3 means for providing a carrier body having front and back edges, a  
4 top side, a center portion, and an end portion on each side of the center  
5 portion, the carrier body having a narrower width at the front edge than  
6 at the back edge in order to form a tapered sleeve that conforms to a  
7 shape of the forearm when the carrier is worn ~~the center portion having~~  
8 ~~front and back edges and an external surface with a size that is greater~~  
9 ~~in length from the front edge to the back edge than various kinds of~~  
10 ~~articles used in cosmetics, including scissors, eyeliner pencils, and~~  
11 ~~makeup brushes;~~

12 means for securing the carrier to the forearm, the securing means  
13 including means for fastening the end portions to each other when the  
14 end portions are wrapped around opposite sides of the forearm ~~to secure~~  
15 ~~the carrier to the forearm;~~ and

16           ~~strap~~ means, attached to the top side of the carrier body, for  
17           forming an open-ended compartment that extends along the ~~external~~  
18           ~~surface~~ center portion in a longitudinal direction of the forearm, the  
19           compartment snugly receiving and urging an article used in cosmetics  
20           against the center portion ~~external surface~~ to hold the article in place, an  
21           open end of the compartment being located at a distance from the front  
22           edge such that the article can project out of the compartment while  
23           remaining ~~encompassed by the external surface of~~ on the center portion.

1   17. (currently amended)   A method for constructing a hands-free carrier  
2           for wearing around a forearm, the method comprising:

3           providing a carrier body having front and back edges, a top side,  
4           an underside, a center portion, and an end portion ~~of~~ on each side of the  
5           center portion, the carrier body having a narrower width at the front edge  
6           than at the back edge in order to form a tapered sleeve that conforms to  
7           a shape of the forearm when the carrier is worn ~~the center portion having~~  
8           ~~front and back edges and an external surface with a size that is greater~~  
9           ~~in length from the front edge to the back edge than various kinds of~~  
10           ~~articles used in cosmetics, including scissors, eyeliner pencils, and~~  
11           ~~makeup brushes;~~

12           attaching means for fastening to the top side of ~~an~~ one of the end  
13           portions of the carrier body and to the underside of ~~a second~~ the other  
14           end portion of the carrier body;

15           attaching a strap across the top side of the carrier body at a  
16           plurality of locations to produce an open-ended compartment that  
17           extends along the ~~external surface~~ center portion in a longitudinal  
18           direction of the forearm, the compartment snugly receiving an article  
19           used in cosmetics and urging the article against the ~~external surface~~

20 center portion to hold the article in place, an open end of the  
21 compartment being located at a distance from the front edge such that  
22 the article can project out of the compartment while remaining  
23 ~~encompassed by the external surface of~~ on the center portion.

1 18. (currently amended) The method of claim 17, further comprising  
2 attaching a planar cover portion to a the front edge ~~of the center portion~~.

1 19. (currently amended) The method of claim 17, wherein the strap  
2 extends across the carrier body approximately parallel to a the front edge  
3 ~~of the center portion~~.

1 20. (original) The method of claim 17, further comprising sewing a layer of  
2 neoprene between layers of duck cloth to produce the carrier body.

1 21. (new) A cosmetics kit, comprising:  
2 an implement used in cosmetics; and  
3 a forearm carrier for wearing on a forearm of a user and for holding  
4 the cosmetics implement, the forearm carrier comprising:  
5 a carrier body having means for securing the carrier body to  
6 the forearm of the user; and  
7 an open-ended compartment coupled to the carrier body, the  
8 open-ended compartment being made of material that enables the  
9 compartment to expand and hold the cosmetics implement snugly  
10 when a portion of the cosmetics implement is inserted into the  
11 compartment through an open end thereof.

1 22. (new) The cosmetics kit of claim 21, wherein the implement used in  
2 cosmetics is a make-up applicator.

1 23. (new) The cosmetics kit of claim 22, wherein the make-up applicator is a  
2 blush brush.

1 24. (new) The cosmetics kit of claim 21, wherein the implement used in  
2 cosmetics is an eyeliner applicator.

1 25. (new) The cosmetics kit of claim 21, wherein the implement used in  
2 cosmetics is hair-cutting shears.